

Rockland Council on Aging
317 Plain St Rockland, Ma.
Secretaries Report
Wednesday August 13, 2014

With a quorum present, Audrey Ryan, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:30.

Roll Call: Lorraine Ahern, Eleanor Cole, Lu Crowley, Chris Kelly, Peter Stonis, Patti Penny, Cynda Childs, Jean Callahan and alternate John Rogers. Excused: Beverly Ladner – Absent: John Conway. (9 plus alternate present).

Old Colony Elder Services: Agnes Smith – Absent

Old Colony Planning Council: Rita Howes

Although there was no meeting of OCPC in August it was reported that OCPC has restored funding to the centers.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting / Secretaries Report: A motion was made by Lorraine Ahern to accept the report as read, seconded by Eleanor Cole and the vote was unanimous.

Financial Report: A motion was made by Cynda Childs to accept the report as read, seconded by Chris Kelly; the vote was unanimous. Current balance: \$47,569.37

Warrant Report: The Bill Warrant was duly signed. Motion by Lorraine Ahern and 2nd by Cynda Childs to accept report. There was discussion that all warrants need to be handled timely (some bills arrive after meeting but are due before next meeting). The Director has been addressing this weekly in a very timely fashion and the motion was made and approved to continue in the same manner.

Outreach Report: A motion was made by Chris Kelly to accept the report as presented and seconded by Jean Callahan; the vote was unanimous. It is noted that the senior center has seen a doubling of attendance since the new center opened. Many of the disabled who were unable to attend the location on Union St due to the stairs are flocking to the new center and attending the vast addition of new programs. The lunch program has also seen a doubling of attendance.

Director's Report: The motion was made by Chris Kelly to accept the report as presented, seconded by Jean Callahan. Many of the small "Punch List" items have been resolved and new improvements have been made to the landscaping. There is now a Horse Shoe pit as well as a Bocce Game available. Many of the seniors are having fun daily playing these new games.

- 7 New computers have been installed in the computer room and classes are starting September 3, 2014 and will be held twice weekly – both classes are already full. After

the (6 week) course the instructor will report the progress to the Director to ascertain if a more advanced class needs to be added. To the delight of many of the attendees there is also wireless Wi-Fi available throughout the building. Many seniors have been observed bring their own computers in to practice on them. For many this is the first experience they have had, and all report that it has expanded not only their knowledge of computers but has enhanced their availability of information and resources. The computers have locks on them for safety and members must leave their keys in the basket when using a computer.

- Director Peggy reports that Tai Chi class has started on Friday afternoons and attendance is increasing weekly with an average of 17 attendees.
- The Cultural Council had their meeting at the new senior center for the first time and they were delighted at the availability of space and the wireless Wi-Fi available.
- The Rockland Fire Department has inspected the building on several occasions and reports they are very pleased with the safety measures. The installation of panic bars/buttons is ongoing in accordance with requirements and an additional bar will be installed exiting from the cafeteria.
- There will be a cookout at the Center on Saturday August 23, 2014 starting at 1:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. The cook out in July had an attendance of over 175 seniors.

Next meeting September 10, 2014 @ 9:30 AM

As there was no further business to come before the Council a motion was made by Cynda Childs and 2nd by Eleanor Cole to adjourn at 9:52 AM, the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Ahern
Secretary COA
August 13, 2014